

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01  
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02  
SS-15 SSO-00 INRE-00 IO-13 SSM-03 NEAE-00 /079 W  
-----031921 081328Z /50

O 081210Z AUG 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8087  
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY BEIRUT IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
USLO RIYADH IMMEDIATE  
USDEL TAIF IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV IMMEDIATE  
USINFO WASHDC IMMEDIATE  
NSC WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN  
USMISSION SINAI  
USIA WASHDC

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TAIF FOR SECRETARY'S PARTY

WHITE HOUSE FOR MR. POWELL

USIA FOR IOP/M

FROM DCM MATTHEWS (ABASSADOR IS IN ALEXANDRIA)

E.O. 11652: N/A

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TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS R.) EG IS XF US  
SUBJECT: AUGUST 8 MEDIA COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S VISIT

REF: CAIRO 13108

SUMMARY: SECRETARY'S TOUR TOOK SECOND BILLING IN CAIRO  
MEDIA AUGUST 8 TO SADAT ADDRESS TO SOLDIERS ON LIBYAN

BORDER (SEPTEL), IN SOURCE OF WHICH BE BRIEFLY RESTATED EGYPT'S "COMMITMENT TO SEARCH FOR PEACEFUL SOLUTION" TO MIDDLE EAST PROBLEM. PRINCIPAL ITEM REPORTED THAT FAHMY INFORMED U.S., THROUGH AMBASSADOR EILTS, OF EGYPTIAN DECISION TO INCLUDE ARAFAT'S STIPULATION ON "RIGHT OF PALESTINIANS TO RETURN" IN EGYPTIAN WORKING PAPER. PRESS IGNORING NEGATIVE SIGNALS FROM ISRAEL AND PLO IN FAVOR OF SIGNS WHICH DEMONSTRATE "MOMENTUM". END SUMMARY.

1. CABINET MEETING. FRONT PAGES REPORT LENGTHY CABINET MEETING AUGUST 7 DURING WHICH MINISTER OF INFORMATION, QUOTING FAHMY, SAID VANCE MISSION REPRESENTS "FRESH AND CONSTRUCTIVE MOVE TOWARD A SETTLEMENT...AND REFLECTS U.S. COMMITMENT TO SOLVING MIDDLE EAST CRISIS."

2. PLO. ONLY MENTION OF PLO ACTIVITY IS PAGE 2 GUMHURIYYA REPORT CITING AFP THAT CENTRAL COMMITTEE NOW SCHEDULED TO MEET IN DAMASCUS ON AUGUST 16.

3. USSR. FAHMY RECEIVED SOVIET CHARGE AKOPOV AGAIN AUGUST 7 AND RECEIVED MESSAGE FROM GROMYKO. NO PRESS SPECULATION ON CONTENTS NOR FURTHER MENTION OF GROMYKO VISIT IN SEPTEMBER.

4. SAUDI: ALL PAPERS COVERED SECRETARY'S ARRIVAL IN TAIF, MEETING WITH FONMIN SAUD, AND SCHEDULED SESSIONS WITH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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KING KHALID AND CROWN PRINCE FAHD AUSUT 8. FEARLESSLY PREDICTED THAT MIDDLE EAST AND HORN OF AFRICA WILL BE EXAMINED IN TALKS.

5. JORDAN: MEANWHILE, REPORT FROM AMMAN STATES THAT TALKS WITH KING HUSSEIN WENT BEYOND PROCEDURE AND DEALT WITH "BASIC ISSUES". SECRETARY REPORTEDLY NOT SATISFIED MERELY TO CONVEY PROPOSALS OF ONE SIDE BUT ARRIVED WITH CONCRETE SUGGESTIONS OF HIS OWN AND CLAIMED SOME PROGRESS MADE ON QUESTION OF "NATURE OF PEACE". KING HUSSEIN REPORTEDLY SAID TALKS MADE PROGRESS ON MOST QUESTIONS, ALTHOUGH HE WARNED AGAINST UNDUE OPTIMISM. SAID HE BELIEVES U.S. INTEND ON ACCOMPLISHING NEGOTIATED GLOBAL SETTLEMENT AND (BECAUSE OF U.S. INITIATIVE) "WE NO LONGER MOVE IN CIRCLES."

6. NO EDITORIAL COMMENTARY ON MIDDLE EAST.

7. COMMENT: AGAIN, PRESS NOTABLE FOR ITEMS THAT IT FAILS TO COVER. TWO INTERESTING EXAMPLES WERE AFP REPORT THAT ARAFAT, ACCORDING TO WAFA, HAS CAUTIONED ARAB LEADERS TO BE CAREFUL OF VANCE PROPOSALS. WAFA SAYS ARAFAT CON-

SIDERS THAT VANCE PROPOSALS ARE "DESINED TO SOW DISSEN-  
SION IN ARAB RANKS AND LIQUDATE PALESTINE CAUSE." SECOND ITEM  
IGNORED WAS AFP REPORT FROM ISRAEL QUOTING SHMUEL KATZ AND GOVERNMENT  
SECRETARY NAOR THAT GOI HAS DECIDED TO REFUSE TO DISCUSS  
WITH SECRETARY ANYTHING BUT QUESTIONS OF PROCEDURES. SUB-  
STANTIVE ISSUES WOULD BE DEALT WITH EXCLUSIVELY IN ARAB-  
ISRAELI TALKS.

8. WHETHER "BAD NEWS" EMANATING FROM PLO OR ISRAEL,  
EGYPTIANS CLEARLY FEEL THIS NO TIME TO DWELL ON IT PUBLICLY.  
PRESS HAS, IN FACT, LARGELY IGNORED ISRAELI ANGLE IN  
COVERAGE OF SECRETARY'S TOUR, IF ONLY BECAUSE AIRING  
FRUSTRATIONS WITH "ISRAELI INTRASIGENCE" WOULD UNDERCUT  
REPORTS OF PROGRESS MADE DURING ARAB PORTION OF VISIT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
22 May 2009  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009